(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to fill up these posts; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating to constitute separate Railway Recruitment Board by giving special priority to Darjeeling Himalayan Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) As on 31.10.09, 54 Group 'C' and 57 Group 'D' posts are lying vacant in Darjeeling Himalayan Railway.

(c) Filling of vacant posts is a continuous process and the policy of the railway administration is to fill up all available vacant posts promptly as per laid down procedure.

(d) A new Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) has been set up at Siliguri to cater to the needs of Katihar and Alipurduar Divisions of Northeast Frontier Railway. Darjeeling Himalayan Railway forms part of Katihar Division.

Proposal to make Ajmer world class railway station

†3357. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make Ajmer Railway station a world class station in the Railway Budget 2009-10;

(b) if so, the target set for starting and completing the same; and

(c) the details regarding world standard norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ajmer Railway Station has been identified for development into World Class Station through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Preliminary activities have been taken up. No target date for completion has been fixed.

(c) It is planned to provide state-of-the-art station building with good architecture and having segregation of arrival/departure of passengers, modern amenities like food plazas, currency exchange counter, tourist info booth, retail outlets, internet cafe, ATM facilities, Hotels, car rentals, prepaid taxi booths wherever feasible, well illuminated circulating area, etc.

Unmanned railway level crossings

†3358. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) out of 16976 unmanned and 17244 manned railway crossings in the country, the total number of railway crossings that are proposed to be made man operated, zone-wise;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of railway crossings that are proposed to be upgraded under gauge conversion and doubling programme, zone-wise;

(c) the details of railway crossings that are proposed to be replaced with ROB/RUB, zone-wise; and

(d) whether Government would consider the proposal of building railway crossings on BOT basis after consultation with the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Details are as under :

Sl.No.	Railway	(a) No of Unmanned level crossing sanctioned for manning	(b) No. of level crossings sanctioned for upgradation during gauge conversion and doubling	(c) No. of Level crossings sanctioned to be replaced with ROB/RUB
1	Central	03	24	66
2	Eastern	10	45	35
3	East Central	07	06	62
4	East Coast	46	01	38
5	North Western	46	0	39
6	Northern	58	0	192
7	North Central	01	0	68
8	North Eastern	35	0	51
9	North East Frontier	87	0	36
10	Southern	40	0	331
11	South Central	15	132	137
12	South Eastern	37	0	16
13	South East Central	15	03	22
14	South Western	90	18	116
15	Western	16	05	49
16	West Central	08	0	58
	TOTAL	514	234	1316

(d) There is no policy to construct new level crossing gates on BOT basis. However, there already exists a policy of construction of ROB/RUB on BOT basis.

Irregularities in election of railway staff unions

3359. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: